

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, South Dakota was founded with hard work, perseverance, dedication to duty, and concern for one's fellow man; and,

Whereas, James Vlahakis began his law enforcement career in 1978, working as a patrolman with the police department in Norfolk, Nebraska, and Yankton, South Dakota. He continued his career with the Yankton County Sheriff's Office from 1980 to 1989; and,

Whereas, In 1989, Jim joined the Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI) as a Special Agent, advancing to Field Supervisor, Assistant Director, and became Director of DCI in 2006; and,

Whereas, Jim is chairman of the Law Enforcement Standards and Training Commission and is on the Executive Board of Midwest HIDTA (High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area); and,

Whereas, Director Vlahakis will officially retire from law enforcement on June 9, 2008, after 30 years of faithful and dedicated public service to the citizens of South Dakota; and,

Whereas, Jim's wife, Joyce, will join DCI agents from across the state on May 29, 2008, to honor Jim for his loyal and dedicated service to law enforcement; and,

Whereas, It is fitting and proper as Governor to make special note of this outstanding South Dakotan on his distinguished law enforcement career; and,

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim June 9, 2008, as

JAMES VLAKHAKIS DAY

in South Dakota, and I join with his family, friends, and colleagues in wishing him a fulfilling and happy retirement.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-second Day of May in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Eight.

A handwritten signature of M. Michael Rounds in black ink.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

A handwritten signature of Chris Nelson in black ink.

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State